



The Deepest Blue

Christina Lee

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Lee exchanges skyline for swampland in the next book of her male/male romance series, Roadmap to Your Heart.

Rugged and conventional Callum Montgomery enjoys running Shady Pines hunting preserve, except for the secret that's eating him alive. When his sister brings a date for a family wedding, he can't stand the arrogant city slicker with the stick up his perfectly fine ass. He doesn't understand his draw to Dean, who pushes his buttons at every turn, but he'd never dream of betraying his sibling over some lust fueled fantasy.

Handsome and conscientious Dean Abbott is a research assistant in his university's biology lab. When his roommate, Cassie, begs him to be her pretend date in front of her meddling family, he begrudgingly agrees to help. He doesn't anticipate being enchanted by the countryside, the colorful cast of characters, or her sexy and brooding straight brother.

When contempt turns to passion and leads to stolen moments in a sugar cane field, Callum can't help longing for the kind of connection he believes he can never have. But not even the world's most heart-melting kiss can bridge the vast philosophical differences between the men.

Dean's return to his urban lifestyle leaves him restless, his mind continually wandering to the charming setting that spoke to something missing deep inside him. Because you can take the city boy out of the country but you can't make him forget the intriguing man he left behind.

Here's the reading order of this series (five books):

THE DARKEST FLAME
THE FAINTEST SPARK
THE DEEPEST BLUE
THE HARDEST FALL
THE SWEETEST GOODBYE

The Deepest Blue Details

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From Reader Review The Deepest Blue for online ebook

~◊~Doxni(ela) ♥ ?? love & semi-colons~◊~ says

~3.5~

After reading a novel featuring violence and cruelty, I appreciated the simplicity of this book, which is almost entirely relationship and family focused.

Sexy, low angst, and tender, *The Deepest Blue* is an easy read.

The story, monotonous initially, what with the MCs bickering and obsessing over each other for several chapters, picked up after the first passionate kiss.

I absolutely loved Billie, Callum's younger brother. I liked his entire family, but Billie is amazing. Cassie is a pretty great sister and friend, too.

I just wish the ending had been less abrupt. I was so disappointed that we didn't get an epilogue.

Wendy says

Re-read 4/3/17

Another really good "opposites attract" story. I seem to read a lot of those lately. I really liked the first book in this series and I hoped this one would be good too. Even though both books are completely different from one another, I loved both. I really like it when an author does that.

So about the story....city and country collide ;)

Dean is an out and proud, geeky collegeboy. He is also Cassie's roommate.

When Cassie asks him to accompany her, to a family wedding at home and act as her fake date, Dean has no problems helping her out. He just wasn't prepared to meet the hot brother.

Callum is a closeted, hard working countryboy. Nobody knows he is gay, except for his occasional hook-ups. Not even Cassie. Callum is too worried about his family and the business to come out. But he can't help but feel extremely attracted to his sister's date. He tries to hide his attraction behind snarky remarks.

Both don't know the other is gay....that is until they share a very sweet kiss. This is followed by another

sweet kiss and so much more....with an albino peacock watching them...lol

Say hi to Gus ;)

Callum is afraid family business will go down, when he comes out, but he also doesn't want to hide this part of himself any longer. So he comes out to his sister first. After this, he will have to face the rest of his family.

This book was a nice slow burn with some awesome sexual tension. I loved these boys together. I think the first book was a bit steamier, but I didn't really mind, since there were still some panty-dropping scenes in this one ;)

The book is very low on angst. Most of the angst is centered about Callum's coming out, but I have to say...I loved his family. Especially Granny and Billie. We don't really get to read about Deans family.

I really enjoyed this one and I hope there will be another book in this series.

4 stars from me :)

Chris says

This was a sweet city/ county read .. Dean who comes to the country to support his best friend and partner her at a local wedding - problem being no one knew Dean was gay. Dean falls for Callum, the closeted awesome big brother and the story begins. Callum is gentle, caring and preparing to give up what he really wants so that he can support his family - forget about love, it's not in the stars. This is the journey of Dean & Callum and how they managed distance, time and people. Very cute ?

Judith says

***** 4 Stars for the sexy City Boy and Country Boy*****

This is lovely M/M romance about 2 men who are complete opposites being attracted to each other.

Dean is openly Gay,a bit geeky and just adorable.He is really into science and is finishing a Master's program in Biology.His roommate and best friend,Cassie has to attend a family wedding and as her family are trying to match her with a man from her home town asks Dean to attend the wedding with her as her 'boyfriend'.

Callum is Cassie's older brother. He helps run his family's Hunting Preserve. He is in the closet with his family.

When Callum and Dean meet, sparks fly. Callum thinks Dean is a bit condescending and pushes his buttons any chance he gets.

The attraction between them is pretty instant but Callum is conflicted....after all, it's his sister's boyfriend so he thinks.

They both skirt around each other until they share a passionate kiss which sees Callum running to the hills.. When Dean eventually tells Callum the truth they begin a beautiful, tentative relationship of sorts.

This is a slow burner on the hotness side but for once the dirty girl in me didn't mind.

I really felt for Callum. You could feel his inner turmoil at the thought of coming out to his family, especially his father. I read a lot of M/M books but this one really made me understand how difficult it must be for some people to admit to being Gay to their families.

I loved Callum's family but the one character who stole the show, for me, was Callum's younger brother Billie....he was such a sweetheart and I loved how Dean bonded with him.

A recommended M/M read....

Pixie says

Man that whirl wind of a wrap up...

Mostly I was bored, kept checking on other stuff, emails (I'm off until the 4th so why am I checking my work emails), pinterest (gotta find some Christmas cocktails), went to lunch with a friend...so yeah. Basically it just wasn't anything new and I'd read the story done better.

Sorry...others loved it so you should probably read their reviews.

Ele says

~3.5 stars~

R * A Reader Obsessed * says

3.5 Stars

What should've been an easy, relaxing weekend getaway in the wild country, turns into the unexpected for two very different men.

As a favor to his best friend Cassie, Dean agrees to be her date so she doesn't have to fend off familial pressure to get hitched. Academic, citified, and a bit out of his element, Dean's basic principles immediately clashes with Cassie's older brother Callum, who runs the family's hunting preserve. Dean never expected to be entranced by the raw natural beauty he's confronted with, let alone the rugged, gruff man who

steadfastedly defends his way of living.

Callum has been hiding who he is for years, as the responsibility for keeping his family's business in the black weighs heavily, fearing that coming out will jeopardize revenue in and from his small town life. He's conflicted and horrified that's he's drawn to a man that infuriates so, let alone is his sister's boyfriend.

Eventually the truth comes out, and preconceived notions on both sides need to be broken down, as these two try to fight and ultimately lose the battle with their attraction. Can they reconcile their differences in order to have a future together?

This was more enjoyable for me than the first in the series, being quite low on the angst with a very nice dose of sexy. But again, like the first, this was just a bit off in the connection to the characters that I can't quite pinpoint, despite excellent writing, flow, and progression. Many other readers and my GR friends loved this, so regardless, these two were quite the hot, swoony pair when they weren't being antagonistic. In addition, the side characters added to the enjoyment of this immensely, and I look forward to reading the rest of this series, especially since that includes younger brother Billy :)

Susan says

This can be read as a stand-alone

This was quite a surprise. There was so much potential for angst in this one and for the first 30% I was convinced the story would go there. But no! **This was deliciously angst free!**

Dean gets asked by his roommate Cassie to come to her family's farm with him as a date to her cousin's wedding. Dean has no problem pretending to be straight for only a short visit and helping Cassie fend off an unwanted admirer.

But the one thing he hadn't counted on was Cassie attractive brother, Callum. Callum and Dean are attracted to each other from the start, but both try to hide this.

Callum is deeply in the closet because he fears for his family's business and he doesn't want to leave his 15 year old brother alone by moving away. So he is extremely on edge when he notices himself falling for the city boy. And his sister's boyfriend no less!

But of course they cannot stay apart when their chemistry is this explosive..

I loved these guys! At first I was a bit bored and had a feeling this would be all push and pull between them. But no, these guys were incredibly sweet together and I loved how they talked about stuff instead of keeping secrets.

And the sexy times, oh man!! They were explosive together!

So if you're looking for a low angst, sweet, but sexy story, you should pick this.

Meags says

4.5 Stars

I found myself pleasantly surprised by this sequel to The Darkest Flame. The first book in this series was entertaining, and if memory serves, it was also super-hot, but this story was so much more than a sexy M/M romp. Here, Lee created some truly lovable characters and a story that expertly pulled at my heart-strings.

Dean Abbott is smart, passionate in his beliefs and openly gay. He is finishing his master's degree in something science-y - don't ask me what, it went over my head - but before he commences his final summer of classes, he agrees to play fake-boyfriend for his roommate and best-friend, Cassie, and travels with her to her family home for a wedding.

Cassie Montgomery hails from Florida, where she grew up on the Shady Pines hunting preserve, which has been run by her family for close to a hundred years. As the only female in the youngest generation of Montgomery's, Cassie has always been expected to marry a guy from the property bordering Shady Pines, essentially in the hopes of binding the two families and providing a merger of businesses. The problem has always been that Cassie simply isn't interested - enter fake-boyfriend, Dean.

When Cassie and Dean arrive at Shady Pines, Dean meets gorgeous and gruff Callum, one of Cassie's older brothers. Dean and Callum immediately butt-heads, but there is something in the way Callum seems to purposefully rile Dean up that gets under Dean's skin, not to mention the heated looks he keeps receiving from the surly man when he thinks no one is looking.

Callum Montgomery knows he's in trouble the moment he meets Cassie's new boyfriend. Dean might just be the most gorgeous man Callum has ever laid eyes on, which is really a problem considering Dean is dating Callum's sister **and** Callum has resigned himself to a life in the closet for the sake of his family's happiness. Unfortunately, or fortunately, Callum can't seem to keep away from the man who has the bluest eyes he's ever seen.

I found myself falling for Callum more and more as the story progressed. His situation and his fears really touched me, especially his unwavering loyalty to his family and his continued effort to make their business thrive, regardless of what it meant (or he felt it meant) he had to give up in return. I loved the way he came to life once he met Dean and began questioning the possibilities for a different, fuller life for himself. The caustic initial interactions between Callum and Dean lead to some seriously sweat and sexy later interactions. Their chemistry was scorching and their passion for one another was sigh-inducing. And that ending? So good!

I also immensely enjoyed the secondary characters in this story, particularly the Montgomery clan, with a special adoration for Grammy (Cassie and Callum's grandmother) and Billie (their little brother). The extensive cast brought this story to life and I couldn't help but fall in love a little with each of them in turn.

This sequel has made me really excited to read further in this series - especially Billie's short story from last year's *It Was Always You*, which I skipped over initially, wanting to wait until I'd read his introduction here.

This was a truly great start to my reading year! So it begins...

Dimitri says

Meh it was OKAY

This was a sweet ride, but it lacked substance and I will explain what I mean by this. My reservations go something like this:

1. Insta-love is an insta-no for me, so I would say this was my problem with this novel. Like they only were "together" for like 2 weeks but by the end of the book they were proclaiming their undying affection for one another. That is why I do not read insta-love, the romance feels fake and doctored just to try and manipulate my emotions, YEAH THAT DOESN'T WORK ON ME. I need to be able to UNDERSTAND and SEE why you love each other. It also doesn't help that these characters were just kind of blah. Callum constantly felt insecure for being "country" and "redneck", almost as if he had a chip on his shoulder. And Dean was kind of a know it all sometimes.
2. And I'm sorry to sound a little bit boujie but..... I would NEVER move to the country for a man. Like ME and the SOUTH, just doesn't go together. I like vast urban jungles with a range of diverse opinions and cultures and people. Like I'm not trying to be in conservative hick-town, they already don't like gays, which is a NO for me. I don't like country music and I don't particularly like southern food so couple that with a bunch of meh characters and no real passion, yeah I just couldn't picture myself in that relationship. And that is the reason why we read these romance novels. To feel like we are the ones being swept off our feet, being caught in the PASSION. And because I have never had a boyfriend I like to live my romance life through these novels, however pathetically :D. AND I HAVE BEEN TO GAINESVILLE, so the fact that Ms. Lee described it as a "bigger city" than Roscoe TURNED ME OFF. Because I thought there wasn't anything more boring than Gainesville. BUT I will say this, I LOVED TRUE BLOOD, so maybe add a bunch of sexy possessive gay vampires to Roscoe and THEN you got me hooked!

All in all, maybe if I was a true country bumpkin or if they had more passion and realness to them I would've liked this novel more. But I'm not and it didn't so I would recommend if you want a bland romance, but if not, skip it.

Christina says

In book #1, The Darkest Flame, Felix--from the Disciples of the Road--mentions a brother at the university. This is his story and is completely an adult standalone.

Dean and Callum's book is essentially city boy meets country boy. The majority of the story takes place on a hunting preserve, where their stark differences are a constant source of irritation. *WINK*

Here's a little teaser:

I love these boys so hard! Hope you do too. :-)

Nyrae Dawn says

I loved this book! Such a sweet, sexy, fun story!

Truuss says

Callum and Dean two opposite The country boy and the city boy.

Didn't understand each other until they did.

Not much drama. A sweet surrounding, they grow to each other. When they are apart again there hearts hurt because of the distance they will never be together. Then they are together again just for a few days. Their connection is only getting stronger.

Sweet loving story.

~Mindy Lynn~ says

AMAZON FREEBIE 8/4/17

Tess says

4 stars

This was a sweet one. I loved the setting and the opposites-attract feel. Great fully-formed secondary characters too.
